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             IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
             FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS
 2
                        EASTERN DIVISION
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 4
     In re:
                                    ) No. 02 B 48191
     UAL CORPORATION, et al.,
 5
                                    ) Chicago, Illinois
                                    ) May 10, 2005
 6
                                   ) 10:30 a.m.
                       Debtors.
 7
              TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS BEFORE THE
 8
                   HONORABLE EUGENE R. WEDOFF
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10
    APPEARANCES:
11
     MR. JAMES SPRAYREGEN
     MR. TODD GALE
     MR. ALEX DIMITRIEF
12
     on behalf of the debtors;
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     MR. FRANK CITERA
    on behalf of the city of Chicago;
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15
     MR. JEFFREY COHEN
     on behalf of the PBGC;
16
     MR. FRUMAN JACOBSON
17
    on behalf of the creditors committee;
18
     MR. BRUCE SIMON,
     on behalf of the Air Line Pilots Association;
19
     MR. ROBERT CLAYMAN
     on behalf of the Association of Flight Attendants;
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21
     MR. LEE SEHAM
     on behalf of the Aircraft Mechanics Fraternal
     Association;
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     MR. JACK CARRIGLIO
     MR. FRANK CUMMINGS
     on behalf of the Retired Pilots;
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25
     MR. PAT HERRINGTON
     on behalf of IFS;
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Page 2 MR. BILL SMITH on behalf of the Bank of New York; MS. SHARON LEVINE on behalf of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers. 

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- 1 defined due process, the court specifically pointed
- 2 to Section 1303 of Title 29, 4003 of ERISA, for the
- 3 right that any aggrieved party has to bring the PBGC
- 4 into court to challenge the propriety of action that
- 5 the PBGC has taken under the statute. This is
- 6 critically important here.
- 7 Brought down to its essentials, many
- 8 of the parties objecting to the proposed settlement
- 9 between United and the PBGC are saying that the PBGC
- 10 is not going to be acting under its statutory power
- 11 to terminate a pension plan because the continued
- 12 existence of the plan would threaten the solvency of
- 13 the pension benefit quarantee system, that this plan
- 14 would be likely to create losses for PBGC if it were
- 15 allowed to continue, but that PBGC is agreeing with
- 16 the debtor to terminate a plan so that PBGC can
- 17 augment the solvency of the system by receiving funds
- 18 that it might otherwise not receive.
- The information that's been presented
- 20 to this court would not support that interpretation.
- 21 But the important thing is that if the agency were to
- 22 act in an inappropriate way, if it were to take
- 23 action that's not authorized by the statute in
- 24 seeking involuntary termination of a pension plan,
- 25 the agency would be subject to a lawsuit under

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- 1 Section 1303 to have its decision reviewed by a
- 2 court. And if the agency were acting arbitrarily,
- 3 contrary to its statutory duties, that action could
- 4 be undone. That's critical here.
- 5 This settlement does not itself
- 6 terminate the plan, any plan. This settlement
- 7 provides that the PBGC will go through its
- 8 administrative procedures to come to a conclusion as
- 9 to whether the plans in question here ought to be
- 10 involuntarily terminated.
- Now, as Mr. Sprayregen said at the
- 12 outset, it is the expectation of the debtors that
- 13 that decision will be in favor of involuntary
- 14 termination. It would be the expectation of the
- 15 debtors because the debtors have said for months that
- 16 they believe that these plans cannot be maintained
- 17 without generating losses. So PBGC may very well
- 18 come to the conclusion that the debtors expect. The
- 19 important thing is that if the unions believe that
- 20 that is an arbitrary decision not consistent with
- 21 PBGC's statutory authority, PBGC's action is
- 22 reviewable in court.
- What that means for the terms of the
- 24 settlement that's before this court today is that
- 25 this settlement does not violate the law. The debtor

